Amendment to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently Amended) Optical disc (2) suitable for optically storing information in multiple sessions (51), having a memory chip (60) containing session information stored therein, wherein the stored session information pertains to session states and track states.

2. (Original) Optical disc according to claim 1, the disc having at least one track (50) for storing information, a lead-in portion (53) of the track also containing session information recorded therein.

3. (Previously Presented) Optical disc drive apparatus (1) for reading optical information from an optical disc (2) according to claim 1, the optical disc drive apparatus being adapted for reading session information from said memory chip (60) and using this information when accessing the optical disc.

4. (Original) Optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 3, comprising: means (4, 6) for receiving and rotating an optical disc; an optical system (30) and an actuator system (40), controlled by a control circuit (90), for scanning tracks (50) of the disc (2) using an optical beam (32) for reading information from said track; a chip reader/writer device (61), coupled to an input/output port (98) of the control circuit (90), adapted for communication with said chip (60) of the disc (2); wherein the control circuit (90) is adapted, in response to a read command, to read session information from said chip (60).

5. (Currently Amended) Optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 4, the optical disc drive apparatus comprising means ~~being adapted~~ for reading ~~performing an~~ information ~~reading method~~ from an optical disc, said information reading means further comprising: ~~the following steps:~~

means for receiving ~~[step 301]~~ a user instruction to read a specific piece of information from said optical disc;

means for consulting ~~[step 303]~~ the session information in said memory chip (60);

means for determining ~~[step 304]~~ the position where the required information is to be found; and

means for jumping ~~[step 305]~~ to the location determined by said determining means~~in step 304~~.

6. (Currently Amended) Optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising:

means for checking ~~wherein the optical disc drive apparatus is adapted, after step 301, to first check [step 302]~~ whether the disc (2) carries a memory chip (60) with session information,

wherein said checking means is performed prior to said consulting means~~;~~

and upon satisfying said checking means performing said consulting means through said jumping means, according to claim 5

~~and wherein the optical disc drive apparatus is adapted, when the check of step 302 results in the finding that the disc (2) does carry a memory chip (60) with session information, to continue with steps 303, 304, 305~~.

7. (Currently Amended) Optical disc drive apparatus for writing optical information into an optical disc (2) according to claim 1, the optical disc drive apparatus comprising:

means for ~~being capable of~~ reading session information from said memory chip; and

means for using the session ~~this~~ information when accessing the optical disc,

wherein the optical disc drive apparatus is ~~being~~ adapted to store session information into said memory chip after having performed a write operation.

8. (Original) Optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 7, comprising:

means (4, 6) for receiving and rotating an optical disc;

an optical system (30) and an actuator system (40), controlled by a control circuit (90), for scanning tracks (50) of the disc (2) using an optical beam (32) for writing information into said track or for reading information from said track;

a chip reader/writer device (61), coupled to an input/output port (98) of the control circuit (90), adapted for communication with said chip (60) of the disc (2);

wherein the control circuit (90) is adapted, in response to a write command, to read session information from said chip (60).

9. (Currently Amended) Optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 8, the optical disc drive apparatus comprising:

means ~~being adapted~~ for performing an information writing method, said means comprising: ~~the following steps:~~

means for receiving ~~[step 304]~~ a user instruction to write ~~read~~ a specific piece of information;

means for consulting ~~[step 403]~~ the session information in memory chip (60);

means for determining ~~[step 404]~~ a free track portion where writing may take place;

means for jumping ~~[step 405]~~ to a position at the beginning of the track portion determined by said determining means ~~in step 404~~;

means for writing ~~[step 406]~~ the information in a new session; after having completed the new session,

means for writing ~~[step 407]~~ updated session information into the memory chip 60.

10. (Currently Amended) Optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 9, wherein the optical disc drive apparatus further comprises:

means for checking ~~is adapted, after step 401, to first check [step 402]~~ whether the disc (2) carries a memory chip (60) with session information; and upon satisfying said checking means performing said consulting means through said writing means, according to claim 9~~wherein the optical disc drive apparatus is adapted, when the check of step 402 results in the finding that the disc (2) does carry a memory chip (60) with session information, to continue with steps 403-407~~.

11. (Original) Optical disc drive apparatus according to claim 7, capable of performing a random write operation on a recordable optical disc (R-type).

12. (Currently Amended) An optical disc ~~Storage device~~ (2) comprising written track portions (51) where information has been written and blank track portions (52) where information has not been written, the optical disc (2) further comprising a memory chip (60) ~~a relatively slow access storage medium (50) and a second relatively fast access storage mediumcontaining~~ for storing session information pertaining to session states and track states ~~format information and/or state information~~ relating to the information written to the written track portions (51) of a track (50) of the optical disc (2)~~data stored in said relatively slow access storage medium (50)~~.

13. (Currently Amended) Reading apparatus (1) for reading information from an optical disc (2) suitable for optically storing information in multiple sessions (51), having a memory chip (60) containing session information stored therein, wherein the stored session information pertains to session states and track states pertaining to the stored information in multiple sessions (51) ~~said storage device (2)~~, the reading apparatus being

adapted for reading said session information ~~information~~ from ~~said~~ a memory chip ~~relatively fast access storage medium~~ (60) and using this information when accessing information stored in the multiple sessions (51) of a track (50) of said optical disc (2) ~~the relatively slow access storage medium (50)~~.

14. (Currently Amended) Writing apparatus (1) for writing information to said storage device (2), the writing apparatus (1) being adapted for reading information from ~~said~~ a memory chip ~~second relatively fast access storage medium~~ (60) of said storage device (2) and using this information when accessing written track portions (51) of a track (50) of the storage device (2) ~~the relatively slow access storage medium (50)~~, the writing apparatus (1) being further adapted to store information into said memory chip ~~relatively fast access storage medium~~ (60) after having performed a write operation to said track (50) of the storage device (2) ~~first relatively slow access storage medium (50)~~.